

Algona High School

Edited by: Brittany Vaske & MacKenzie Siefken

February 11, 2011

From the flames, we rose

Chris Arend

On Saturday, February 5th, the Large Group State Speech contest was a time to remember. The contest was located at Sioux City East High School and involved teams from 117 schools from the northwestern portion of the state. Unlike the District contest in which groups performed in front of one judge, at State groups performed in front of three. After they performed, the judges gave them an overall rating from division III to division I. This year there were 13 different groups that competed from AHS.

In the Short Film category, "The New Guy In Town" was given a straight Division II rating. Then in the freshmen Ensemble Acting, "Seeing the Light" was given a split division II rating. Also receiving a split division II rating was the Musical Theatre group "Lit-

tle Shop of Horrors." "Chicago" was the other Musical Theatre group that went to State; it received a straight division I rating.

Freshmen Readers Theatre performed "Chipped" and received a split division II rating. Varsity One-Act Play, "Hollow," was given straight division I performance rating. The Choral Reading group performed "How to Succeed in High School Without Really Trying" and was given a split division I rating. Freshman One-Act Play was given a straight division I rating for "Accused of Comedy."

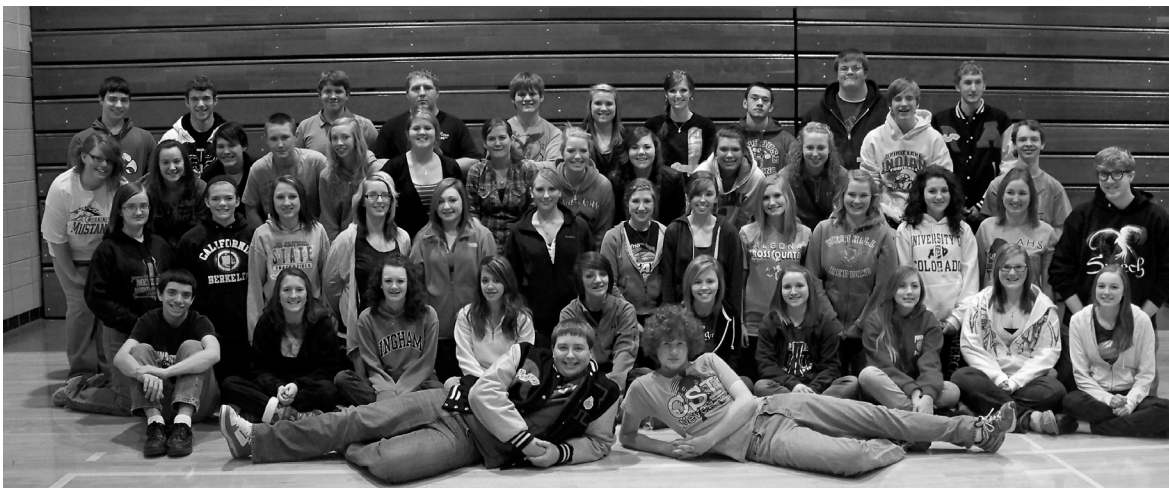
For Group Improvisation, there were five different groups that performed, three varsity and two freshmen groups. The team of Scott Haas and Tommy Christian received a straight division I rating for their performance of

"Trapped in a Computer." Given a split II rating was the freshmen team of Courtney Pityer and Joanna Wilson doing "Having a bad cold and not trying to show it." Joey Schattschnieder and Brianna Johnson were given a straight II rating for "Caught in a Spy Movie." Also getting a straight II rating was Jeff Schipull and Emily Drusch for "Bathing a reluctant Dalmatian." Also doing "Bathing a reluctant Dalmatian" was the team of Alyssa Mechler, Colton Rooney, and Shelbi Schaderdorf; they received a split II rating.

"AND," which was performed by the varsity Readers Theatre group, was executed perfectly. At Districts they received a division I rating, and at the State contest was given a straight division I rating.

Any performance

that was given an overall division I rating is in contention to be named to All-State. To be honored with All-State recognition, two of the judges must give the group an All-State nomination. Nominations were posted on the Iowa High School Speech Association website at 4:00, Monday afternoon. All AHS performers who were hoping to go sat and waited in Elle's room for the results. Students became restless at each passing minute; some students nearly drove themselves to insanity waiting the last few minutes. In the end, "AND" is the only group from AHS that will be going to All-State to be recognized as non-performers. Congratulations to all speech team members who performed at the State meet and a special congrats to the cast of "AND" for receiving such an honor.



Left: The State speech participants pose for a picture.

The streak continues

On a roll

Carly Sansone

John Krause

The girls' basketball team is looking to go undefeated in Conference play once again and earn their 5th Conference championship in a row.

To keep their streak alive, they played Garrigan. They took care of business against their cross town rival, winning 57-36. Laura TerHark led the team in scoring with 18. MacKenzie Siefken helped the team out having 14 points. Brittany Vaske led the team in rebounds with 11. Laura TerHark also led the team in assists with 7.

The girls then hosted Hampton-Dumont on Friday, February 4, 2011. They won this game 58-25. Laura TerHark led the team to a victory with 15 points, Paige Yi followed her up with 12 points. Brittany Vaske led the team in rebounding with 7. Megan Gerhardt led

the team in passing with 5 assists.

The girls then went to Spencer to play a non-Conference game on Monday, February 7, 2011. They lost the game 38-53 but their Conference-winning streak continues. Laura TerHark led the team with 18 points.

The girls traveled to Humboldt the next day. They were looking to get back into the winning column against Humboldt. They won this game 58-29. The Conference winning streak went to 81 with the win against Humboldt.

Next up for the girls is a home game tonight, February 11th, against Webster City. After that they will start the tournament trail by playing Humboldt at home on Wednesday, February 16th, in the first round.

The Algona High School boys' basketball team hosted a game on Friday, February 4th, against Hampton-Dumont. It was a nice fight for the Hampton-Dumont Bulldogs, but AHS came away with the victory. The final score was 58-46. Michael McMahon led the team, scoring 15 points. Ryan McMahon followed with 12 points and Sam Lipps was close behind with 11 points.

The Bulldogs then played Humboldt High School on Tuesday, February 8th. This was a tough game for both teams. The game was close the whole time, but the Bulldogs took the win 48-47. Rachel Weiland stated, "It

was a really intense game."

Come support our Bulldog team tonight as they take on Webster City at home. Let's keep the ball rollin' boys.



Above: Paige Yi goes for a lay-up against Hampton-Dumont.



Above: Samuel Lipps sinks a free throw.



Right: Noah Hollinger jumps at the tipoff of the Garrigan game.

Student Senate inTunE in IHSMA dance

Katie Green

The Algona High School Student Senate is having a casual dress school dance. The dance will be held on Friday, February 11th, after the boys' varsity basketball game.

The dance will be held in the high school commons. It will start around 9 and will go until midnight. The DJ for the night will be Nick Bitz.

The cost to get in to

the dance is \$3 or \$1 plus a food item. All proceeds will go to the food pantry.

Student Senate member Kenzie Siefken said, "A lot of people really liked the homecoming dance this year, so we decided to have another dance. It should be a really good time!"

Tyler Mawdsley

On January 29th, AHS's inTunE jazz choir joined five other 3A high school choirs at the Iowa High School Music Association State Jazz Choir Festival (IHSMA) in Spirit Lake. inTunE is directed by Mr. Kelley.

The students who participated were soprano seniors Katie Connick and Morgan Coleman, alto seniors Abbie Atkinson and Megan Gerhardt, tenor senior Joe Schattschneider and tenor junior Scott Haas, and senior bass Jeff Schipull and freshman bass Braden Menke. Some songs performed were "Java Jive" and "Georgia on My Mind." Soloists included Morgan Coleman, Megan Gerhardt, and Abbie Atkinson.

Each choir was

judged by three officials on aspects like tone quality, blend, rhythmic feel, interpretation, precision, musicianship, microphone etiquette, and balance. The rating system is Division I-superior, Division II-excellent, Division III- good, Division IV-fair, and Division V- poor. inTunE received one Division I rating and two Division II ratings. "Algona did a good job," said senior Matt Smith.

inTunE will be performing at the AHS Pops Concert on February 14th. Their performance after that will be February 25th at the Iowa Community College Vocal Jazz festival in Creston. Congratulations & continued good luck to inTunE!

National Honor Society

Kari Simpson

National Honor Society is a group of students with great academic, leadership, character, and service achievements. There are quite a few requirements in order to be admitted to NHS.

Some of these requirements include a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or higher, a minimum of thirty-five documented community service hours, a typed application packet, and two letter references.

The staff at AHS reviews the students and rank them based on their information given. The faculty then chooses who will be inducted. The faculty council consists of

five teachers, which the administration picks.

Any actions a student makes that look poorly on the Algona High reputation will be looked at closely. There is no guarantee that a student will be inducted, even if previously inducted.

There are currently 16 students in National Honor Society. Brittany Vaske, current National Honor Society member, said, "I feel very honored to be a part of National Honor Society."

The Honors Banquet and National Honor Society Induction ceremony will be on March 21st.



Left: Jeff Schipull, Scott Haas, Braden Menke, Joe Schattschneider, Megan Gerhardt, Katie Connick, Abbie Atkinson, and Morgan Coleman

Super Sunday

John Etler

As everyone knows, last Sunday was the day of the 45th annual Super Bowl. In this year's contest, the Green Bay Packers came out as world champs. The final score of the game was Packers 31, Steelers 25. Green Bay went into the game favored and held up the projection for a win.

The MVP of the game was Green Bay's quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who threw for 304 yards and 3 touchdowns and 0 interceptions. He also completed 24 passes to 8 different receivers including 9 to Jordy Nelson. To make

his performance even more impressive, his receivers dropped 4 passes throughout the course of the game.

The commercials during the game were generally considered sub par as compared to other years. Many people thought the Doritos commercials could be better, judging by their ideas last year.

Also the halftime show left much to be desired. The overall opinion of the Black Eyed Peas live wasn't too high. Phil Stein was quoted saying, "The Bengals would beat both those teams combined."



No Strings Attached

Connor Barber

No Strings Attached is a comedy starring Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher as Emma and Adam. They met at camp as young kids and become friends. Then they run into each other years later at a college party.

They have an attraction towards each other but neither one is looking for a serious relationship. That's where they get the

idea to become friends with benefits. Over time their friendship grows into love, which makes everything complicated.

No Strings Attached is rated R and came to theatres January 21st. It runs at the Algona State 5 theatres until February 10th. John Etler says, "It was a random and funny movie which I would recommend."



Above: The Special Olympics basketball participants hold their awards while they pose for a picture.

Special Olympics Basketball

Clarissa Laubenthal

The Special Olympics District basketball competition was held on Saturday, February 5th, at Forest City.

The following AHS students have qualified for the State Special Olympic basketball competition. For first place: Byron Larsen, Amy Kaiser, and Brett

Eden. Second and third place finishes went to Jacob Hutchison and Caleb Giddings.

Good luck to the students from AHS who will participate in the State Special Olympics competition on March 18th in Iowa City.

Right: Brett Eden smiles while participating in District basketball competition.



Valentine's Day

Janelle Wittenberg

Valentine's Day is just around the corner on Monday, February 14th. A lot of couples around this area will go out to restaurants like Primetime or Emeralds that are in town because they are nice. Many girls prefer flowers and jewelry for Valentine's Day. "I got a pretty ring but I am still looking for a Valentine if anyone is interested," said Carly Sansone.

The origination of Valentine's Day is questionable, as is why it was chosen to be on the 14th, but it is figured that it was created by a Catholic saint

named Valentine. He was a priest and served in Rome. There is another legend that says that Valentine was imprisoned and fell in love with his jailer's daughter. Supposedly before he died, he sent her the first "valentine" and wrote her a letter and signed it "Your Valentine," which is also still used on cards today.

The true story may never be known, but the fact is that February has been a month of showing love for along time, all the way back to the Middle Ages.

Valentines Word Search

U	M	C	P	I	N	K	H	Q	P	V	W
V	J	U	Q	H	R	S	G	K	A	J	P
V	J	P	P	Z	E	P	E	L	E	T	F
K	P	I	H	S	D	N	E	I	R	F	S
R	S	D	O	N	I	N	T	A	O	E	R
Y	N	R	V	M	T	E	E	Y	M	C	O
E	O	D	E	I	E	H	R	D	A	A	M
N	B	B	N	W	T	J	D	N	R	L	A
O	B	E	S	E	O	D	D	A	R	L	N
H	I	R	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C
A	R	W	M	C	E	Y	F	V	W	J	E
N	S	A	Y	S	T	E	E	W	S	S	P

On to Districts

Cane Arrowood

The Algona wrestling team traveled to Clear Lake for the Sectional tournament on February 5th. In order to advance to Districts, a wrestler must place first or second in Sectionals. The Bulldogs were able to send three grapplers on to Districts.

Of the three wrestlers, two of them are freshmen. Freshman Kory Kuecker finished Sectionals in second place at 119 pounds. Kory was able to pin his opponent in 2:35. Fellow freshman Tyler Frideres finished in second place at the 160-pound weight class.

Tyler won his wrestle back to make it to Districts. He pinned his opponent in 1:38. Finishing up the trio, Nick Buchanan was the champion at heavy weight division. Nick easily walked his way to the finals. Nick won his championship match in a 1-0 decision in triple overtime. "Fighters fight," says Nick Buchanan.

Good luck to the Algona grapplers in the District tournament. Districts are held at Forest City, starting at 103 pounds at 12:00 Saturday, February 12th.

ARROW

BE MINE

CANDLES

CANDY

CHOCOLATE

CUPID

FLOWERS

FRIENDSHIP

HEART

HONEY

LACE

LOVE

PINK

RED

RIBBONS

ROMANCE

ROSES

SWEETHEART

SWEETIE

SWEETS

VALENTINE



School News

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Algona High School Festivals

Rachel Weiland

Some members of the AHS band have been chosen to be part of three honor band festivals. The top students from each school that participate are picked.

On January 8th, seven students from Algona High School were in the North Central Iowa Bandmasters Association District Honor Band Festival. The event took place at Iowa Central Community College. The students selected were Johnny Aboud, Madalyn Gisch, Scott Haas, Daniel Haack, Breanna Johnson, Alexis Beenken, and Alyssa Mechler.

Six members of the Algona High School Band were chosen to participate in the Northern Festival of Bands. The Festival is held

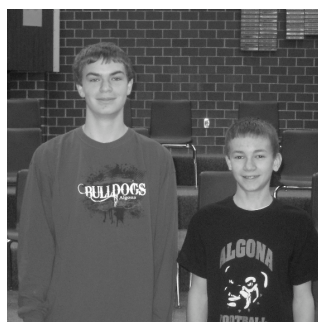
February 10th-12th at the University of Northern Iowa. The participants are Johnny Aboud, Madalyn Gisch, Daniel Haack, Breanna Johnson, Alexis Beenken, and Michaela Christian.

The 30th annual Buena Vista University Honor Band Festival will take place Saturday, February 26, 2011. Nine Algona students were chosen to participate in this festival. Two of the nine participants are middle schoolers they are Adam Denner and Sam Feucht the other seven are Alexis Beenken, Kevin Blaha-Polson, Michaela Christian, Dan Haack, Maddie Gisch, Alyssa Mechler, and Braden Menke. Congratulations to those individuals.



Band members honored

Above: Back Row: Michaela Christian, Johnny Aboud, Dan Haack, Maddie Gisch; Middle Row: Alyssa Mechler, Alexis Beenken, Breanna Johnson; Front Row: Scott Haas, Keven Blaha-Polson, and Braden Menke



Left: Middle school students Adam Denner & Sam Feucht

Soup supper

Katie Green

The Algona Community School District and Vocal and Instrumental Music Promoters' annual soup supper will be held on Friday, February 11, 2011. They will start serving at 5:00 p.m. and will go until 6:45 p.m. It will be held in the Algona High School commons on the evening of the Webster City varsity boys and girls basketball game.

The menu consists of all you can eat homemade chicken noodle soup or chili, carrots and celery, crackers, and cookies or bars. Cost for

adults is \$6 and students are \$4. If you are not attending the basketball game, you do not need to pay for entrance to the game to come eat the soup.

All profits will be donated to the Algona Community School District elementary general music programs for grades K-5. If you have any questions, you can contact Sheila Laubenthal-Black at 295-7773 or 295-7296. You can also contact Dianne Aboud at 295-3586.

Friday, February 11th

UNI Honor Band

JV boys basketball vs. Webster City 4:30

JV girls basketball vs. Webster City 4:40

Soup supper 5-6:45

Varsity girls basketball vs. Webster City 6:15

Varsity boys basketball vs. Webster City 7:45

Winter casual dance 9-12:00

During the games:

*Cake raffle in the commons (by AHS After Prom) - drawings announced at Varsity boys' halftime

*iPad or printer drawing (AHS After Prom) during Varsity boys' halftime

*Winners of the "Coins for a Cure" announced